Quality of IT professionals

2113. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken cognizance of the recent study by the NASSCOM-McKinsey on the need to enhance to the quality of IT professionals in the country;

(b) the steps suggested in the said report to improve the quality of IT professionals;

(c) whether Government have also taken cognizance of other independent report on the issue;

(d) whether Government are in agreement with the conclusions of reports on the need to improve the quality of IT professionals;

(e) if so, the details of the steps being taken to enhance IT education and training in the country; and

(f) how Government propose to raise the resources for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) NASSCOM-McKinsey Report 2005-'Extending India's Leadership of the Global IT and BPO Industries' includes the following suggested agenda for Central/State Governments with reference to human resource development:

(i) Set up Focused-Education-Zones to improve quality of higher education; and

(ii) Deregulate higher education in stages over the next 5 to 7 years, and shift to a largely demand-based funding system for colleges and universities.

(c) to (f) The assessment of human resource requirement for the IT sector is a continuous process. Government of India alongwith Industry association like NASSCOM have been continuously looking at this sector's requirement from time to time, Government of India had set up

a Task Force on 'Human Resource Development in Information Technology' with the main objective to prepare a long-term strategy for significantly increasing the number of well trained IT professionals in line with economic projections. The Task Force had noted that the issue of manpower gap is not as much about the institutional seat availability as about the nature of skills and training provided in these institutions. The follow-up include, DIT initiating measures to generate manpower in key verticals like bioinformatics, VLSI Design and Information Security; NASSCOM launching a pilot phase of NAC programme-NASSCOM's Assessment of Competence to help the ITeS-BPO industry; and ITeS-BPO course implemented by DOEACC Society in North East and Jammu & Kashmir to enhance the skills of youth for employment in ITeS-BPO sector.

In addition, initiatives by AICTE include, effective Industry-Institute interactions through collaborative projects with the Industry Association, revision of curriculum so as to meet the necessary requirement and Faculty Development Activities to ensure quality and industry relevance, etc.

The initiatives taken by University Grants Commission (UGC) include Digital Repository of Research and Training material, internet connectivity for universities, information communication and computer education, Teaching innovations in various disciplines and career-oriented education programmes.

Institutes of Information Technology have been set up by the Government of India, by the State Governments and also in the private sector to provide qualified IT-related manpower to the Industry.

Regulation on access deficit charge

2114. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Telecom Regulator to issue regulation on Access Deficit Charge (ADC) to the Cellular Operators at the earliest while Cellular Operators Association of India have sought